

# El Rio Santa Cruz Neighborhood Health Center

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839 West Congress  
Tucson, AZ 85745

**Location:**

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Tucson, AZ 85719

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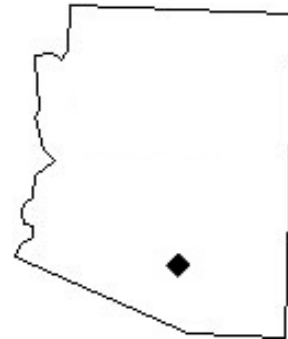
**Web:** www.elrio.org

**Director:** Kathy Byrne

**HCH Coordinator:** Ken Burton

**Medical Director:** Arthur Martinez, MD

**UDS Number:** 090160



Arizona

## Project Description

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El Rio Health Center is a non-profit community health center that serves as the primary provider of outpatient medical services to persons who are homeless in the Tucson area.

**Services**

Physicians, a family nurse practitioner, nurse care managers, eligibility clerks, and patient advocates staff the HCH project. Outpatient services include primary care, specialty care, lab, x-ray, pharmacy, dental, and case management. The staff conducts daily outreach activities by providing medical care and supportive services at shelters, feeding centers, and rehabilitation centers. An additional primary care clinic for individuals who are homeless opened in July 2003. Expanded services at this clinic include specialized integrated behavioral health care with an adjacent mental health outpatient clinic. El Rio's Health Education Project continues to serve persons who are homeless in Pima County, using volunteer health care professionals to address an array of health issues, such as communicable disease, mental health, reproductive health, children's health, and nutrition. El Rio Health Center is also an active member of the Tucson Planning Council for the Homeless.

**Linkages**

El Rio Health Center maintains long standing reciprocal relationships with community agencies to best meet the physical, psychological, social, and spiritual needs of individuals who are homeless. Outreach, case management, feeding centers, emergency shelters, transitional shelters, temporary and permanent housing, short- and long-term mental health care, substance abuse treatment, pre-employment and re-employment counseling, employment placement assistance, parenting classes, and life skills development services are made available through collaboration with dozens of agencies community wide. Agencies involved with specialized programming for individuals who are homeless that work in concert with El Rio Health Center HCH Project include Adult Rehab Center, Casa Maria, Primavera Shelter, Bethany House, Open Inn/Shared Kids, COPE Behavioral Health Services, and Compass Healthcare.

**Statistics**

Estimated homeless population: 17,000 Project users: 3,800

**Subcontractor(s):*****COPE Behavioral Services***

82 South Stone Avenue  
Tucson, AZ 85704  
Contact: Pat Benechik  
Phone: (520) 792-3293

## Maricopa County Department of Public Health

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220 South 12th Avenue

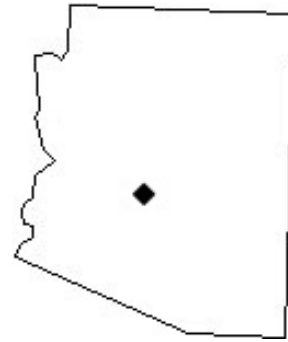
Phoenix, AZ 85007

**Phone:** (602) 372-2100

**Fax:** (602) 254-5918

**Email:** corinnevelasquez@mail.maricopa.gov

**Web:** www.maricopa.gov/public\_health/homeless.asp



**Phone:** (602) 372-2101

**Director:** Sandi Wilson

**HCH Coordinator:** Corinne Velasquez

**Medical Director:** Adele O'Sullivan, MD

**UDS Number:** 090750

### Project Description

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The Maricopa County Health Care for the Homeless Program (MCDPH) uses an integrated model of health care delivery servicing all of Maricopa County. Services include outreach, primary care, case management, housing, behavioral health services, substance abuse counseling, and referrals for dental, vision, and entitlement programs.

#### Services

The HCH program is the only major provider of health care to uninsured people who are homeless in Maricopa County. Clinic services are provided at the homeless clinic located in downtown Phoenix. A clinical staff, consisting of a physician, two physician assistants, a psychiatrist, substance abuse counselor, mental health therapist and case managers, provides primary and secondary health care, prenatal care, preventive health care, and behavioral health care. Outreach services include basic health assessment, primary care, Phoenix Children's Hospital Crews'n Healthmobile, disease outbreak and health emergency response, food delivery, nutrition education, parenting and disease prevention education, and referral for housing and other services. Transportation is provided to medical appointments daily and as needed for emergency care to Maricopa Medical Center and local detox centers.

#### Linkages

Enrollment in Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System is provided by Medical Assistance Programs and onsite eligibility workers. Emergency care services and hospitalization are available at Maricopa Medical Center. Dental services are provided by referral to the Central Arizona Shelter Services Dental Trailer. Vision services are available by referral to Lions Vision Clinic. Referrals are also made to other MCDPH programs including the STD and TB clinics and the McDowell (HIV/AIDS) Clinic. Other mental health services are available by referral to Value Options. Project staff network with the Maricopa Association of Governments Task Force on the Homeless, Phoenix Health Care Coalition for the Homeless, Coalition to End Homelessness, United Methodist Outreach Ministry, Central Arizona Shelter Services, Phoenix Rescue Mission, and Thomas J. Pappas School for Homeless Children.

#### Statistics

Estimated homeless population: 12,000 Project users: 5,377

### Subcontractor(s):

#### *Central Arizona Shelter Services*

1209 West Madison Street

Phoenix, AZ 85007

#### *Phoenix Children's Hospital Crews'n Health Mobile*

1919 East Thomas Road

Phoenix, AZ 85016

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